
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

6 Tips for Hassle Free Travel This Long Weekend

Nanaimo, British Columbia (October 7, 2014) — The Nanaimo Airport Commission is expecting to see even more travelers than usual this weekend. “Thanksgiving is always a busy time at YCD,” shares Mike Hooper, President and CEO, Nanaimo Airport Commission. “We anticipate the flights will be full, and there may be more greeters than normal on site so parking will be in high demand.”

With 15 arriving flights each day, the Nanaimo Airport has really grown over the last few years. The increased number of planes means a couple of times each day the airport has multiple flights departing about the same time. “Based on the increase in passenger volumes, it can take up to 30 minutes to get through security screening,” explains Hooper. “To reduce the stress of travelling, we strongly recommend that passengers arrive at the airport at least 90 minutes before their flight.” This is particularly important during the two peak flight times between 7:25am and 8:15am or between 12:25pm and 2:10pm.

6 Tips for Hassle Free Travel

1. **Check flight status on-line** – Do this before you leave from home to reconfirm the departure or arrival time and ensure that you won’t have an unexpected delay once you get to the airport.
2. **Check in on line** – This may help you secure the seat you really wanted, and eliminate the time to stand in the check in line.
3. **Don’t forget about your checked luggage!** - Remember all airlines at Canadian airports now have a 45 minute cut off for check-in. So that means even if you have checked-in on line, you will STILL need to see an agent to get your checked luggage tagged 45 minutes before the plane departs.
4. **Arrive Early** – With parking in high demand and the security line at its maximum, a plan to arrive just a few extra moments before cut off could easily lead to disaster and a missed flight. Instead reduce the last minute stress and plan to arrive at the airport 90 minutes before your flight. Thankfully the Nanaimo Airport terminal enhancements completed in 2011 have increased services and comfort in the departure lounge for those that clear security early. There is plenty of seating, TVs with news and sports, free internet connection, a play area for the kids, plus food and beverage services inside the lounge.
5. **Between Check-In and Security, Stow Everything** - Except your ID and boarding pass in your carry-on bag. This way, when you get to the front of the security line, you are not finding stuff in random pockets, messing with your phone, dropping credit cards and keys.

6. **Take Inventory** - While awaiting your turn at security, take inventory of what you will need to do when you get to the front of the security line. Do a quick mental review of everything you are wearing that you will need to remove (such as shoes, jewelry, watch, jacket), and what you have inside your carry-on bag that might need to be taken out (liquids and laptop). When you get to the front of the line, blast through your mental inventory and make it happen.

Most importantly enjoy your trip!

About Nanaimo Airport (YCD):

Nanaimo Airport is a ten-minute drive south of downtown Nanaimo on 224 hectares (550 acres), which includes the nearby Cottonwood Golf Course. YCD is a not-for-profit authority owned by the Nanaimo Airport Commission. Vancouver Island's third largest airport, Nanaimo Airport serves a primary central Vancouver Island area with a total population base of approximately 250,000. The YCD service area extends north from Nanaimo to Qualicum, west to the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, and south to Duncan and the Cowichan Valley. YCD is ideally situated as the most convenient departure/arrival point for customers from the mid-Island area.

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